

### REMARKS

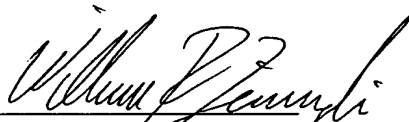
The present preliminary amendment amends the claims, specification, and abstract, where appropriate, to correct minor informalities and to more properly comply with U.S. patent practice.

The paragraph appearing on page 2, line 3, has been amended to reference the documents described therein. Reference to these documents has been deleted on page 10, lines 30 and 31, and page 11, lines 1-4. The claims have been amended to remove the reference numbers previously contained therein. Lastly, the originally presented abstract has been replaced by the new abstract described herein.

It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the above amendments, this application is now in condition for allowance, prompt notice of which is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned in the event that a phone interview will expedite prosecution of this application towards allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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